THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

[ESTABLISHED 1840].

"But upon mount Zion shall be deliverance, and there shall be holiness: and the house of Jacob shall possess their possessions" (OBADIAH 17).

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IN THE INTEREST OF PEACE.

THE following address was issued by the yearly meeting of the Society of Friends, held in London from the 24th to the 31st of May, 1916:

"Dear Friends and Comrades:—We need one another in these dark days if we are to find the way to the true goal of humanity. We have missed the way. In struggling to find it we have been foolish enough to think that we could find it alone, or in small groups. Each group has its own pet scheme; and we call our different plans by names that exclude those who will not use our labels. Socialism, nationalism, democracy, orthodoxy, conservatism, liberalism—these are so many names by which we group ourselves around ideas. The goal of the race must include all noble human aims. Is it not time to set about seeking that goal—TOGETHER?

"British and German, Slav and Teuton, Mongol and Negro—into such groups we have been divided by birth. And so we conclude that we must struggle one against the other, each to win his own ends, or work out his particular ideal of good. Can we not see a common good in which none shall be crushed, in which all shall strive together for more worthy ends than any of us can see alone?

"There is warfare for all of us in this world. But against whom? And for what end? It is not our brother men who are our enemies, but the germs of disease that destroy men's bodies, and the false ideas and evil passions that destroy their souls. We strive for a state of society in which the good of all may be achieved by the self-denying labor of each. In this warfare we need one another. Every true man and every true woman counts.

We cannot afford to lose brave spirits, whatever national allegiance they own, to whatever sect or party they belong.

"Is it not time to try to find our way back to one another? We are all more or less in bonds. Some of us are bound by never-ceasing toil, and we cannot find the way to our best life. Some of us are bound by wealth that dims the vision of the Highest, and leaves us poor in soul when we are called rich. Some of us are bound by what seems like a tragic fate, to take the lives of our fellowmen while we only wish to give our lives for our country. Some of us are bound to appear the enemies of our country for conscience sake, when we wish to serve her with all our powers. Many of us are carrying a sorrow that is almost more than we can bear, and we cannot see the meaning of the loss of those whom we loved better than ourselves. Some of us are cut off from friends with whom we have worked, by deep differences of opinion that we cannot reconcile.

"How are we to find our way back to one another? There *is* a way back, and, as we find this way and take it, we shall be able together to wage the one warfare worthy of all human endeavor.

"There once lived a Man in whose short life men and women of the most widely diverse races and types have alike found inspiration. He moved with equal ease among rich and poor. He had a word of cheer for little children, for sorrowing women, for the outcast from society, for the sincere and true-hearted wherever He met them. His words opened men's eyes to the meaning of love. His deeds stirred their hearts by the beauty of love. His death won them by the power of love. Thus all sorts of people came to find in Him a Brother and a Savior. If that kind of life were lived by many people to-day, the world would be a very different place. Can we not all begin at once to take Him seriously? Let us try together to see if His way will work. Let each one make the experiment. We want to begin without waiting until everyone else is ready to begin too.

"Would not this mean personal disaster? There seem to be so few arguments in favor of it, except that Jesus tried it, and it would, at any rate, be something new to try it in our common life to-day. But is it really possible to apply this to modern conditions, and to the whole community? Would it not lead straight to national ruin? Our own methods have not been crowned with such great success as to give us any confidence in discarding the wisdom of Jesus Christ. Is it not possible that He knew best, and that He had something quite distinctive to say to the world? May not His rising again be an actual fact big with meaning for us to-day? If so, we could at least say that by His death on the cross He won a truer victory than was ever won by armies or navies, and that God was indeed with Him, and is always with those who follow His way.

"*We stand by the conviction that this was and is actually the case*, and that the most real and abiding force in human affairs was seen in operation in the life, death and rising again of Jesus Christ. That force we call the love of God. It cannot really be vanquished. Christ is not dead. He lives in our midst to-day. We know something of His Spirit in our own experience. We want to know more of His spirit, because we are sure that He can lead us and all men in the way of truth. Our desire is to be altogether ready to follow wherever He leads, even when we cannot see where we are going. We are convinced that He is leading us to something very different from all that has satisfied us so far.

"We may have to learn to give up the whole idea of defending our rights, and be willing to stand, as Christ stood, defenceless in the midst of a world of possible enemies. Might it not be that this plan would turn them into friends—a much better thing than defeating them? We may have to learn anew the real meaning of justice, and to demonstrate it in the world as Christ did by accepting the full consequences of injustice. Is it not possible that we should thus find ourselves possessed of the only weapon by which evil can be overthrown—even the love that never fails?

"The way may be difficult. The service called for may be menial, unseen, unrecognized. It matters not, if only, along with all others who really love their fellows, we can help to find the way back to one another, and to the Son of God. Let us begin again. The mistakes we have made have had terrible consequences. All the world is torn and divided, and there may be worse things to come. If we were all to begin again as little children, might not God use even us to save the world from threatened disaster? Might we not wage a winning war against all that destroys men's bodies and souls? Could we not find the way along which we might reach the true goal for the whole human family?

"The way to discover and reach the goal is for each one of us to begin in dead earnest. When one person really steps out into the desperate adventure of following Jesus all the way, someone else will see and want to follow, too. There is a splendid contagion in courageous goodwill. One man, one church, one nation, that takes the risks of such a following may lead the world to a better day. Is it not worth trying? Is it not, in fact, the one thing in the world that is really worth trying? Is it not the way by which we and our brothers may come to know God?

"Together with all who strive for these things we seek to know and follow His wonderful will for men. Let us turn to Him without any reserve—in the confidence that He is eager to give to us His best—NOW.

"Signed, in and on behalf of the meeting,

JOHN H. BARLOW, Clerk."

THE WAYS OF THE WORLD, AND THE GOSPEL.

THE people of the world at the present time are all for pleasure, and seem to think about nothing except this world's goods. If you will open your Bible at I. John 2: 15, you will find these words, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." My mind is not set upon this world's goods. I am trying to do as Jesus Christ taught, namely, to lay up treasures for myself in heaven, where moth and rust cannot creep in, and where thieves cannot break through and steal. The world are laying up treasures on earth, where rust can corrupt, and thieves break through and steal. Christ says (Matt. 16: 26): "For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

The gospel of Christ, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, is indeed a Pearl of Great Price. It brings true happiness and contentment. Paul says (I. Tim. 6: 6-9), "But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. We are told again (Matt. 6: 33), "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you." In order to do this, we must do as Christ says (John 5: 39), "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me," then we shall find that we must repent of our sins, with a godly sorrow, not with the sorrow of the world, which, as Paul says (II. Cor. 7: 10), worketh death. Christ has provided a way in which we can get remission of our sins. Peter (Acts 2: 38) commands the people to be baptized for the remission of their sins. Again, we find that Paul was commanded to be baptized to wash away his sins (Acts 22: 16). After baptism, we receive the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost. Peter promised the Holy Ghost after baptism (Acts 2: 38). Christ promised the Holy Ghost after His departure (John 16: 7). The mission of the Spirit of God is to lead us into all truth (John 14: 26). This gift was bestowed by the laying on of hands, as we read in Acts 8: 17.

Man must have authority to officiate in these ordinances. Paul says (Romans 10: 14-15), "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Peter (I. Peter 4: 11) says, "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth." Paul (Heb. 5: 4) says, "And no man taketh this honor unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron."

We, as Latter-day Saints, bear testimony to the world that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God; that he was indeed called of God, as was Aaron, by direct revelation. He was not called by man. He did not receive his authority from man. He did not go to college to become educated for the ministry. He received, from a divine source, a much higher and greater education than that which man could give him. He was taught by heavenly beings, messengers sent from the presence of our Father in heaven, to make known unto him the plan of life and salvation. He was taught that God was about to do a marvelous work among the people of the world, even a marvelous work and a wonder, for the wisdom of the wise men should perish, and the understanding of the prudent men should be hid (Isaiah 29: 14). With such an education he came into the world, with power and authority to organize Christ's Church again after the pattern of the one that Christ organized in the meridian of time, with apostles, prophets, seventies, elders, priests, teachers, and deacons (I. Cor. 12: 28; Eph. 4: 8-11). These ministers, endowed with divine authority, have been sent into the world to cry repentance unto all mankind, warning them to discard their false creeds and notions, and turn unto the true and living God; also bearing testimony that the angel spoken of by John (Rev. 14: 6-7) has come to the earth with the everlasting gospel, to be preached unto all nations, kindreds, tongues and people. This is the kingdom of God that the Prophet Daniel said was to be set up in the last days (Dan. 2: 44). This is the door into the sheepfold. This is the way; walk ye in it. If any try to climb up any other way, he shall be counted as a thief and a robber (John 10: 1). Christ taught that if any man would do the will of the Father, he would know of the doctrine, whether it was of God, or of man (John 7: 17). St. James says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith" (James 1: 5).

If the men of the world had given heed to the voice of these witnesses, and cried out in the anguish of their souls, what shall we do to be saved, they would have escaped the awful calamity which has befallen them. They would not give heed unto the warning cry of the Prophet Noah. The consequence was, destruction came upon them. Christ says, "As it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man" (Luke 17: 26). Set your affections on things above, not on things that are upon the earth (Col. 3: 2). "Labor not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life" (John 6: 27). "Prove all things; hold fast that which is good" (I. Thess. 5: 21).

Coventry. G. E. HUNTER.

"JUDGE not thy neighbor until thou art in his situation."

TESTIMONY.

As the political circumstances have deprived me of the privilege of mingling with the Latter-day Saints, and of discharging my duties as a member of the Church, I take the opportunity, through the *Millennial Star*, of bearing my humble testimony, which I have gained, as to the truth of the restored gospel of Christ. I not only know that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the only true Church of God, and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of God, and an instrument in bringing forth the restoration of the gospel of Christ, by studying the Scriptures and the inspired books, such as the Book of Mormon, Doctrine and Covenants, and Pearl of Great Price; but I feel it within my very soul that it is the work of Almighty God: "And I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Jeremiah 31: 33).

It is seven years ago since I came in contact with some members of the Church, who gave me their testimony; and I also read the Church history. But being very proud and conceited, I gave it very little attention, until twelve months later I met some missionaries, and I was deeply impressed by their clean and manly appearance, and the love and sincerity they demonstrated by spending their time and means, in preaching the gospel unto all nations. I prayed to God that He might guide me in my investigation of these people, whom the world so much persecuted, not even allowing them to be called Christians. I went to their meetings, and was surprised to hear the gospel, preached as it is written in the Bible, and not the usual sectarian views. I might mention that one of the speakers was President Walter P. Monson, who will be remembered by many of the saints, as well as by the anti-"Mormons," who held a great campaign to exterminate the missionaries. His words cut me to the very center, and I felt that I had gone astray and led a very sinful life, and I needed repentance. I felt that it is the transgressor of the law that fears the law and its punishment, and not he that keeps the law.

I was a regular attendant at their meetings, and had conversations with the elders, and through the grace of God, I was baptized into the fold of Christ, and by the laying on of hands I received the gift of the Holy Ghost, which leads into all truth. Many a time I have experienced this wonderful gift of God. By obedience to the laws of the gospel, I have been made a partaker of the predicted blessings, and by the administration of those elders holding the authority of the Priesthood, have been healed; also members of my family, from sickness (see James 5: 14, 15). Also, I have been warned of accident and approaching dangers, through dreams.

On one occasion I was troubled by the presence of an evil spirit, which terrified my wife and myself. By calling in an elder, that spirit was cast out of the house. "In my name shall

they cast out devils." So I do not pin my faith to the sleeve of any man, but I am a living witness that these gifts, which were enjoyed by the primitive church during the time when Christ was on the earth, are again manifested in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, for I have actually seen some in operation, and of this I do testify with all soberness to the world. Through the promptings of the Holy Spirit, I received the spirit of gathering to Zion, previous to the outbreak of war, and the Lord provided me with enough means; but through my disobedience to the law of tithing, that money dwindled almost to nothing in a very short time, because I robbed the Lord of that which belonged to Him. Through repentance, the mercy of God has been extended so that my wife and child are now in Zion. I feel that the marvelous protection and preservation that I have enjoyed, are due to the power of God, who is no respecter of persons, and who will answer the fervent prayers of His children who keep His commandments.

We are living in the latter days, when God has set up His kingdom on this earth, and has sent out fishers and hunters to gather in the honest in heart from among all nations, to bring peace on earth, goodwill towards men. This is the mission of the Latter-day Saints, as it was of the Prince of Peace. God, the eternal Father, is the Father of the spirits of all men, we being His offspring (Acts 17: 29).

My heart rejoices and praises God for all His goodness and mercy, that he led me to the knowledge of the truth, and to know His people.

Barnet. HERMANN STULZ.

GONE TO HIS REWARD.

ELDER IRVIN CALL, writing from Woods Cross, Utah, U.S.A., July 25th, 1916, sends word of the death, at his home, of Elder Leonard J. Wayment, who had labored in the Irish conference.

He says, in part: "Elder Wayment had a hard journey, but remained quite cheerful, until we arrived home. However, he had a relapse about twelve hours after arriving home, and died from the effect. It was sad to hear of his death. I attended his funeral at Warren. His family felt thankful that he was permitted to arrive home."

The friends of Elder Wayment in the British mission will hear of his departure with sympathy for those who are left to mourn, but they trust that his family and friends will find comfort in the assurance that the Lord "has done all things well."

"IF a civil word or two will make a man happy," said a French king, "he must be wretched, indeed, who will not give them to him."

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1916.

EDITORIAL.

A PEACE ADDRESS FROM THE FRIENDS.

THE Society of Friends in England, commonly known as Quakers, at their annual meeting in London adopted an address to "Friends the World Over," and "To All Who Seek the Way of Life," a copy of which has been courteously sent us by Mr. Isaac Sharp, Secretary, with the suggestion that some reference be made to it in the *Star*. We take great pleasure in publishing the Address *in extenso*, with the statement that the Latter-day Saints in every part of the world, are in full sympathy with the efforts of the Friends, to bring about that peace on earth and good will among men, for the establishment of which our Lord and Savior came to this world and proclaimed the gospel. We also take this opportunity of expressing our admiration for the stand taken by those who are prepared to suffer for their convictions, if so be the will of God, rather than violate their consciences. The spirit of martyrdom is not very common in the world in this age, but wherever it is manifest it produces the heroes on whose brows rest the imperishable wreaths that tell of victory for the kingdom of God, against the hosts of the adversary.

It may not be generally known among our friends in the world, that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is, by divine revelation, committed to the cause of peace among men more strongly than any other church. The Latter-day Saints are temple-builders. That alone prevents them from becoming a military people. As citizens, or subjects, of a country, they are loyal, and patriotic, and will do their duty as required of them by the lawful authorities, even to the giving of their lives in defense of home and loved ones, but at the same time they will labor with all honorable means at their disposal, and more particularly through the preaching of the gospel of the Redeemer, to bring about such conditions in the world that the spears can safely be turned into pruning hooks. They believe in peace through justice, and that it can be maintained when our Lord Himself, through His inspired servants, as in the days of old, undertakes to judge among nations and adjust all differences in accordance with His laws. And that day, they know, will come.

If the Prophet Joseph had been permitted to live the length of time generally allotted to man, we might have been much nearer the day of Millennial peace than we are. For the command of the

Lord to His people, through the Prophet Joseph, was to "lift up an ensign of peace, and make a proclamation for peace unto the ends of the earth." And in pursuance of this work they were, still further, directed to gather and establish a Zion, "a new Jerusalem, a land of peace, a city of refuge, a place of safety for the saints of the Most High God"—a land and a city to which all might come who did not want "to take up his sword against his neighbor." Such were some of the aims and purposes of that mighty man of God, who was cut down by assassins in the midst of his labors for the salvation of the world, through the gospel of the Master, from ignorance, poverty, strife, sickness, and all other evils due to sin. After his death, the saints were driven into the wilderness, where they were under the necessity of reclaiming the parched soil and conquering obstacles, as well as, for many years, enduring, perhaps well-meant, but certainly unjustifiable hostility. The progress toward the high ideal set before the world in revelations given has been slow, under the circumstances, but the Latter-day Saints have, nevertheless, become widely known for their active interest in the furtherance of the cause of peace.

At the present time, the outlook for a speedy coming of the Millennium is not, from a mere human point of view, promising. Everywhere strong voices are raised for "preparedness," while "pacifists" are looked upon with a sort of aristocratic pity and ill-concealed contempt. The great war with its unnamable horrors has, it is to be feared, prepared the soil for the planting of the dragon teeth which will bring a further harvest of strife and conflict. The advocates of militarism are numerous and influential. They have money and friends. Large business concerns, and persistent place-hunters are on their side. They have also support in a very widespread popular sentiment that accepts war as inevitable, and war-making as the noblest occupation imaginable.

But, in spite of all, peace will be established on earth. Civilization will yet advance to the stage when men and women shall demand the abolition of arbitrament by means of human sacrifices on battlefields, as they have demanded, in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, the cessation of cannibalism, slavery, the exposition of children, and other institutions of a dark age. War will go the way these have gone. But there is a great deal of work to be done among the masses of the nations of the earth. The people must be educated in the principles of peace and arbitration. They must be shown the costliness of war, and the insanity of spending national wealth on problems that can be solved better and cheaper by courts. The masses must be made to understand what war means to them. Statesmen know, and the best of them are perfectly willing to enter into treaties with other nations for the maintenance of peace. But as long as the masses are under the spell of militarism, treaties are useless; they will be no more than

"scraps of paper" when the emergency arises. The masses must be educated, until they demand of their governments a policy of peaceful settlement of all international, and national, as well as personal disputes. Then peace will be secured.

But how can the masses be enlightened on this subject? By the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which is the gospel of peace. And then, why not form popular peace societies with weekly meetings? Why not build peace colleges, in which to educate speakers for the ministry of peace? Why not have missionary societies for the maintenance of peace advocates, and the distribution of peace literature? We have peace societies; but a yearly meeting, with a sumptuous banquet, is not enough. Why not work for peace, as the temperance societies, suffrage societies, and the Salvation Army labor for their respective causes? That would be the shortest road to the glorious goal. And in this work all the children of God could labor together in unity and harmony, and be certain of success, by the blessings of the Eternal Father.

J. M. S.

A LETTER FROM SWITZERLAND.

Basel, July 24th, 1916.

President Hyrum M. Smith,

Dear Brother:—We are pained to report to you the death, on the battlefield, July 1st, 1916, of Elder William Kessler. We had hoped that this terrible war was soon to come to an end, and that he would be permitted to return to us, and then to his home in the West; but such was not to be.

Since April 23rd, 1916, we had had no word from him direct, but on the 28th of June we received a letter from his sister, in response to an inquiry from us, that all was well with him. And from this same sister we received word on July 20th, that he had fallen.

We have attended to all the matters pertaining to him, as far as we are able, or were instructed by him, while still alive, to attend to.

We are pleased that we have been quite successful concerning the *Stern*, and it is passing on to the saints again now.

We are pleased to report a very excellent "Ward conference" yesterday, at Solothurn, one of the very smallest of our branches in this mission. We were blessed with the largest gathering that had ever been convened in our hall, which, of course, was not very large, as compared with those of the larger branches; but for this branch, and these saints, it was exceptionally good. Fifty persons were present at the afternoon meeting, and the Spirit of God was with us.

At the close of the little conference, at a quarter past four o'clock, we chose a well-visited central park in the city, and held

an open-air meeting, which was well attended, at times. A brass band came along, and they made us look pretty cheap as entertainers; but they soon got out of hearing, and we sang another song, and soon were blessed with a very good crowd again.

Some very "nasty" stuff had been circulated against us through the press of that city, and I took occasion to answer this publicly, and the shouting which I did would perhaps have done justice to elders who have long been at this work. As a result, I am only whispering to-day.

We expect to hold a "Ward conference" in every branch of the mission, and if the initial one held yesterday is used as a criterion, we shall certainly be greatly blessed through this activity.

With kindest regards,

HYRUM W. VALENTINE.

RELIEF SOCIETY GATHERINGS.

SCOTTISH CONFERENCE.

A RELIEF SOCIETY conference was held at 30, Abbotsford Place, Glasgow, on the 1st of August, 1916. Sister Ida B. Smith, president of the European Relief Societies of the Church, was present. Sister Isabel Blake, president of the Glasgow branch society, had charge of the meeting. There was a large attendance of members of the Relief Societies in the Scottish conference, and their friends. After an opening hymn, and prayer by Sister Jeannie Rennie, Sister Blake gave a very hearty welcome to Sister Ida B. Smith, and expressed the pleasure of all present in meeting her once again before her departure for her home in the mountains.

Sister A. Ure gave a splendid report of the Edinburgh branch. She told of the amount of work done for the Red Cross, and the pleasure the sisters take in the work.

Sister A. Gallacher gave the report of the Glasgow branch. In addition to the work they have done for the Red Cross, the sisters also take a great interest in visiting the homes of the sick and the poor; also of investigators.

Sister M. Hunter spoke of the needs of our wounded soldiers.

Sister S. Graham rendered a recitation, "Guilty, or not Guilty?"

Sister Richardson, secretary of the Edinburgh branch, spoke of the pleasure she took in Relief Society work, and bore a strong testimony of the truth of the latter-day work.

Sister Jeannie Glass spoke of the blessing she had received since she had been set apart for this work, and the pleasure she had in visiting and talking with the sick and the poor.

Sister Daisy Dyvln sang, "I know my heavenly Father knows."

Sister Ida B. Smith then expressed the pleasure she had in meeting with the Scottish people once more. She counseled the parents

to keep their children away from the picture houses; to make companions of them, and to make it their aim to keep them in a religious atmosphere; to keep their own lives clean and pure in the sight of God; to observe the Word of Wisdom, and pay their tithing. She related how the Latter-day Saints had always striven to gain knowledge, to build schools, to educate their children, in the midst of the desert, and how they built the Temple in Salt Lake City, under difficulties; how they overcame these difficulties, and by their own individual efforts raised a beautiful and lasting monument to the glory of God. She told of the splendid Tabernacle organ, which the tourists flocked to see and hear, and which has been declared to be one of the finest in the world. She further told what the Relief Society members in Great Britain are doing, making clothing for the wounded soldiers, and the worthy poor, taking up the temperance cause, visiting the hospitals and entertaining the soldiers, doing tracting and missionary work, in addition to holding their meetings and teaching the principles of life and salvation. She urged the sisters to keep humble and prayerful, and left her blessing with them. Sister Smith's address made a great impression on those present.

President Simkins, of the Scottish conference, spoke of the good spirit prevailing in the conference; also how we enjoyed the Spirit of God when doing something for others. He expressed his pleasure in helping the sisters in their work, and bore a strong testimony. Brother J. Hunter sang a Scotch song.

Elder A. T. Tucker expressed the pleasure he had in being present, and the interest he took in the work. Sister R. McPherson gave a reading, entitled, "Mothers of Men," and Sister Blake made a few closing remarks.

Meeting closed by singing, "God be with you till we meet again." The benediction was pronounced by Sister M. Hood.

Sister Geraldine Smith, a daughter of Sister Ida B. Smith, was among the visitors.

ANNIE GALLACHER, Secretary and Treasurer.

NEWCASTLE CONFERENCE.

THE Relief Society meeting of the Newcastle conference was held in the Westfield Hall, Gateshead, August 2nd, 1916. The meeting commenced at 6:50 p.m., with fifty saints and friends present. Sister Elizabeth Grey, president of Gateshead branch, presided. Singing, "O my Father." Prayer was offered by Sister Agnes Jefferson, secretary of Gateshead branch.

Sister Elizabeth Grey, Gateshead branch, opened the conference, and on behalf of all present gave Sister Ida B. Smith, and her daughter Geraldine Smith, a hearty welcome.

Sister Ward, President of Hartlepool branch, gave the branch report, and spoke of the unity in the branch. A great deal of

work had been accomplished, and they hoped to improve upon it in the future.

Sister Middleton, first counselor of Sunderland branch, spoke of the work they were engaged in, and encouraged all to try to improve upon past results. She gave a synopsis of the organization, and the work done in the branch, and in the closing remarks bore a beautiful testimony to the truth of the gospel.

Sister Elizabeth Robinson, first counselor of Gateshead branch, said she felt well in the work she was engaged in, and was thankful she had been counted worthy of holding a position in the Relief Society.

Sister Stowart, second counselor of Gateshead branch, said she and others had looked forward to the establishing of a Relief Society in Gateshead, and now that it was accomplished, she hoped that all would work in unity, and continue to improve upon the work they had already done.

Sister Hannah Graham, treasurer of the Gateshead branch, said she was pleased to have the privilege of being at the conference, and testified to the truth of the remarks made about the Relief Society work. In bearing her humble testimony, she said she had been in the Church twenty-three years.

Sister Fenwick, president of the Sunderland branch, gave the branch report, which was very satisfactory.

Sister Foster, South Shields, said the Relief Society of South Shields had been closed, owing to the shortage of members, but she hoped that she would be able to reorganize and commence work again in a few weeks.

Sister Agnes Jefferson, secretary of the Gateshead branch, said she was pleased to give the branch report, which was more than satisfactory, the branch Relief Society being only six weeks old. The members were eager to further the cause, and she hoped that the Lord would bless all in their righteous endeavors to help their fellowmen.

Sister Ida B. Smith said she appreciated the singing of the saints, and the program that had been arranged. Solos were rendered by Sister Barren, Gateshead; Sister Foster, South Shields; and Sister McKinley, Gateshead. The organist, Brother Arthur Priestley, Gateshead, late of Halifax branch, rendered some beautiful music. Each of the sisters in their remarks asked the Lord to bless Sister Smith for the interest she had taken in them and their work. A beautiful spirit prevailed throughout the meeting, and everyone present sincerely hoped that Brother and Sister Smith and family would be able to return home safely, having accomplished a great work during their sojourn in Great Britain.

Sister Ida B. Smith occupied most of the remaining time, instructing the saints on Relief Society work. It was pleasing, she said, and gave her encouragement, to hear the sentiments of the saints and friends present. The reports of the work done, and the

financial standing of the branches in the Newcastle conference, were more than satisfactory. She encouraged all to do their utmost to help in the great work that lay before them. Unity and faith were essential factors in the smooth running of this vast women's organization. The Relief Society, she said, was organized on March 17th, 1842, at Nauvoo, Illinois, with eighteen members, this being the pioneer women's organization, and through the untiring efforts of the association presidents, the membership now was about fifty thousand, this being second only to the greatest women's organization of the present day, i.e., the suffrage movement. The aims of the association are to care for the poor, sick and unfortunate; to comfort those who have cause to mourn; and to assist in the uplifting of mankind. Sister Smith advised the saints to keep the Church magazines in the home, *The Juvenile Instructor*, *The Improvement Era*, and *The Children's Friend* being mentioned as magazines containing the thoughts essential to the correct upbringing of a family. Mothers should avoid putting sensational fiction within the reach of their children. This does not improve the mind, but pollutes it. Good books are prepared for children of all ages, and are only sold after careful consideration by the Church committee appointed for this purpose. Sister Smith said she had worked for thirteen years amongst the children of the Church, and it gave her satisfaction to see a child brought up in a religious manner. Parents would be held responsible for the training of their children, it being their duty to lead them into the right paths, and, above all, teaching them obedience. All saints should be faithful to the gospel they have embraced, and endeavor to have no "blanks" against their names in the Church records. The sisters of Great Britain, she said, have done well, worked hard, and given of their best to uphold the name of the Church. The military, and Red Cross Societies, have benefited greatly from the Relief Societies, and in some cases special comment had been made on the beautiful work sent out. There is no limit to Relief Society work. You are expected to get a knowledge of the gospel and teach it to others, especially in cases where elders are unable to get in touch with people, owing to prejudice. In her closing remarks, Sister Smith thanked all present for the welcome she had received, and for the prayers and good wishes that had been extended to her by the saints.

Elder Jonathan Hunt, president of the Newcastle conference, said he was delighted to meet with the saints, and felt that if we were able to remember the glorious things Sister Smith had told us, we would be greatly benefited by putting them into practice.

The conference was brought to a close by singing the Doxology. Benediction was pronounced by Elder Vincent Shepherd, presiding elder of the Gateshead branch.

AGNES JEFFERSON, Secretary Gateshead branch.

A LETTER FROM THE FRONT.

THIS testimony comes to the *Star* from Salonica, dated 14th July 1916:

"I feel that I should like to write my testimony to the *Millennial Star*. I am not a Church member, except in my heart, although I once enjoyed the blessing of membership, and hope to have that privilege again. I can honestly say that I have never denied the gospel of Jesus Christ. The truth was revealed to me from the courts of heaven, through faith and prayer, and I know, as surely as I live, that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of the living God.

"It is sixteen months now since I left England on active service, having spent nearly eight months in France and Flanders, and many a time in what can only be described as a 'hell'; but I have come safely through it all, and I know that it has been by continued faith and prayers, and the love of our Father in heaven.

"My parents, and brothers and sister are all Latter-day Saints, and are all gathered in Zion, except one brother, who was killed in France; but we all realize he was required for a greater work. How glorious is the gospel, when one knows that those whom we mourn are doing a greater work than they could do on earth.

"My regiment moved from France to Egypt, where we stayed only a short time; then we left for Salonica, and here we have had many hard times, but altogether the conditions have been very fair.

"It does one good to try to think of the time when St. Paul preached and taught here, Salonica being the Thessalonica of the New Testament. I have had little chance of seeing the town, but the villagers of Macedonia have changed their dress but little since the time of St. Paul.

"I wish to once more say that I know the gospel of Jesus Christ, as taught by the Latter-day Saints, to be true; that Joseph Smith, and all his successors, were prophets of the living God, raised up to usher in the last dispensation of the fulness of times, and the gathering of the house of Israel. I know that every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and that Joseph Smith was a prophet of Almighty God. I say to all those who may read this testimony, that these things are true, and that all living upon the face of this earth may have these same truths revealed unto them, if they will humble themselves, go down upon their knees in their secret chambers, and will offer up their hearts' desires to their heavenly Father.

"May God bless the leaders of His Church with His Holy Spirit; bless in like manner the president, and all his colleagues, of the British mission, and all the saints throughout the earth, and may His mighty work roll forth until every honest soul has been gathered into His fold.

"I trust that the Spirit of the Lord will move upon the face of the earth and cause this war of slaughter to cease, and that out of the terrible strife may come a lasting peace.

"I would like to ask the saints of the British mission for their faith and prayers, that I may have the strength given me to keep on in the path of righteousness, and that I may return home safe and sound, and be permitted, by our heavenly Father, once more to embrace the gospel.

GEORGE SADLER."

FROM THE MISSION FIELD.

Change of Address.—The headquarters of the Liverpool conference have been changed to 39 Mill Lane, Blackburn.

Release and Departure.—Elder J. Leo Seely has been honorably released from his labors in the British mission, and sailed for home August 5th, 1916, per s.s. *St. Louis.*

DIED.

PEARSONS.—January 20th, 1916, Samuel Pearsons. Deceased was born at Wolocote, January 15th, 1847; baptized June 13th, 1909, by Elder Ernest C. Sutton; confirmed the same day.

PARKS.—February 3rd, 1916, Mary Parks. Deceased was born at Wollaston, Worcester, February 16th, 1850; baptized July 29th, 1908, by Elder Enoch Russon; confirmed the same day.

RUSHTON.—June 14th, 1916, Matilda Rushton. Born at Rudgley, Staffordshire, February 20th, 1852; baptized August 15th, 1909, by Elder Joseph E. Spendlove; confirmed the same day.

OWENS.—At Rose Grove, Burnley branch (Liverpool conference), July 22nd, 1916, Eliza Jane Owens, daughter of John E. and Emma Owens. Deceased was born February 27th, 1896; baptized September 16th, 1904, by Elder Robert Hazen, Jr., and confirmed same day by her father. Funeral was held July 27th, 1916, Elders George M. Tonks and Henry H. Parker officiating. Death was caused by tuberculosis of the brain.

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